

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee

BILL: CS/SB 1882

INTRODUCER: Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation and Senator Gaetz

SUBJECT: State Park Designations

DATE: March 18, 2010 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Uchino	Kiger	EP	Fav/CS
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Please see Section VIII. for Additional Information:

- A. COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE..... Statement of Substantial Changes
- B. AMENDMENTS..... Technical amendments were recommended
- Amendments were recommended
- Significant amendments were recommended

I. Summary:

The committee substitute (CS) designates Grayton Beach State Park as the “Bob Graham/Grayton Beach State Park.” It also designates the marina at Grand Lagoon within St. Andrews State Park as the “Jack Mashburn Marina.” The CS directs the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to erect appropriate signs and markers to reflect the new designations at both locations.

II. Present Situation:

Grayton Beach Park is located in Walton County. The park occupies nearly 2,000 acres, and its beaches rank among the most beautiful and most pristine beaches in the United States. Activities available in the park include bicycling, boating, cabin and campground rental, canoeing, kayaking, fishing, swimming, hiking and nature trails, picnicking and wildlife viewing.

Bob Graham was Florida’s 38th Governor, serving two terms from 1979 to 1987. He served as one of Florida’s two United States Senators from 1987 to 2005. He was first elected to public office in 1966, where he served four years in the State House of Representatives. In 1970, he was elected to the State Senate, where he served eight years.

Bob Graham has roots in Walton County dating back to the 1890s when his grandfather opened a medical practice in Freeport. Bob Graham's mother and siblings were born in Walton County, and his mother graduated from Walton County High School in 1924. During his time as Governor of Florida, Graham supported the Friends of Grayton Beach, a program started by Betty Haynes that raised money to help the state pay for the beach property to stop development and preserve the natural state of the land.

In 1979, Florida created the Conservation and Recreation Lands Program (CARL) in order to save some of Florida's landscape from development. Graham encouraged the state to use money from the Save Our Coast program and the CARL program to have the Grayton Dunes project placed high on the acquisition list, hoping to preserve the area in its natural state. On March 25, 1985, the State Senate officially dedicated nearly 900 acres that were incorporated in the Grayton Dunes State Recreation Area. The state paid \$18.5 million for the property.

After leaving office in 2005, Senator Graham founded the Graham Center for Public Service at the University of Florida. The center provides students with opportunities to train for future leadership positions, meet policymakers and take courses that prepare them for public service.

D. D. "Jack" Mashburn was born in Youngstown, Florida in 1928 and is still politically active in his community, serving on multiple boards and commissions. He served in the Florida House of Representatives during the 1953 Legislative Session, representing Bay County. During his tenure as Representative, he passed several important bills benefitting Bay County. One his longest lasting efforts was spearheading the creation of St. Andrews State Park.

The marina at Grand Lagoon, commonly referred to as the "boat basin," is located within St. Andrews State Park in Bay County. It is a 1,260-acre park well known for its sugar white sands and emerald green waters. It has over one-and-a-half miles of beaches on the Gulf of Mexico and Grand Lagoon. Visitors can enjoy bicycling, campground rental, nature trails, picnicking and wildlife viewing. Water sports enthusiasts can enjoy swimming, snorkeling, scuba diving, boating, kayaking and canoeing. Additionally, two fishing piers, a jetty and a boat ramp provide boating access to the water and ample fishing opportunities for anglers.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 designates Grayton Beach State Park as the Bob Graham/Grayton Beach State Park, and directs the DEP to erect appropriate signs and markers to reflect the designation.

Section 2 designates the marina at Grand Lagoon within St. Andrews State Park, commonly referred to as the "boat basin", as the "Jack Mashburn Marina," and directs the DEP to erect appropriate signs and markers to reflect the designation.

Section 3 provides an effective date of July 1, 2010.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The DEP estimates the fiscal impact to be approximately \$1,500 to change the Grayton Beach State Park signage to reflect the designation and \$650 for signage at the marina in St. Andrews State Park. The total cost to the DEP is estimated to be \$2,150.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS by Environmental Preservation and Conservation on March 17, 2010:

The CS designates the marina at Grand Lagoon, St. Andrews State Park, as the “Jack Mashburn Marina.”

B. Amendments:

None.